

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1 1. (Previously Presented) In an agricultural combine disposed in an ambient environment,
2 an unloading auger for removing a crop material from a storage bin, said unloading auger
3 comprising:

4 an infeed section coupled to an outlet of the storage bin for receiving said crop
5 material from said storage bin; and

6 an outfeed section including a first segment coupled to said infeed section and
7 a second segment hingedly connected to said first segment, said first and second segment
8 being pivotal relative to one another at said hinged connection, said pivot being in a
9 substantially horizontal plane, said pivot transitioning said first segment and said second
10 segment between a storage position and a coaxially connected unloading position while
11 maintaining said infeed section in a substantially vertical orientation; and

12 an actuator, said actuator pivoting at least one of said first segment and said
13 second segment in a substantially horizontal plane about said hinged connection.

1 2. (Previously Presented) The unloading auger according to Claim 1, further
2 comprising a lockable hinge disposed between said first segment and said second segment.

1 3. (Cancelled)

1 4. (Previously Presented) The unloading auger according to Claim 1, wherein
2 grain is prevented from being accidentally released through an open end of one of said first
3 segment and said second segment when said auger is in said storage position.

1 5. (Previously Presented) The unloading auger according to Claim 4, wherein,
2 when in said storage position, said first segment and second segment are positioned generally
3 parallel to a longitudinal axis of said combine with the second segment being positioned
4 generally adjacent to the outside edge of said first segment.

1 6. (Previously Presented) An agricultural combine having an unloading auger,
2 comprising:

3 a) a storage bin; and

4 b) an unloading auger movable between a storage position and an
5 unloading position for unloading a crop material from the storage bin, the auger including:
6 a horizontal section in communication with the storage bin, said
7 horizontal section including a first segment and a second segment, said first segment being
8 movable with respect to said storage bin, said first segment and said second segment being
9 horizontally disposed when said auger is disposed in said storage position and in said
10 unloading position;
11 a hinged joint pivotally connecting said first segment and said second
12 segment, said first segment and said second segment being pivotal relative to one another at
13 said hinged joint, said pivot being in a substantially horizontal plane between said storage
14 position and said unloading position; and
15 an actuator for pivoting at least one of said first segment and said
16 second segment in a substantially horizontal plane about said hinge.

1 7. (Cancelled)

1 8. (Previously Presented) The agricultural combine according to Claim 6, wherein
2 said unloading auger is relocated between said storage position and said unloading position
3 manually.

1 9. (Cancelled)

1 10. (Previously Presented) The agricultural combine according to Claim 6,
2 wherein:

3 a) said combine further includes a body with a rearmost end; and
4 b) no portion of said first segment and said second segment extends
5 beyond said rearmost end of said combine when said unloading auger is in said storage
6 position.

1 11. (Previously Presented) The agricultural combine according to Claim 6, wherein
2 said actuator is a hydraulic cylinder that pivots said first segment and said second segment
3 around said hinged joint, and wherein said hinged joint is lockable and is disposed between
4 said first segment and said second segment.

1 12. (Cancelled)

1 13. (Previously Presented) The agricultural combine according to Claim 6,
2 wherein, when in said storage position, said first segment and said second segment are
3 positioned generally parallel to a longitudinal axis of said combine with the second segment
4 positioned generally adjacent to an inside edge of said first segment when said auger is in the
5 storage position.

1 14. (Cancelled)

1 15. (Previously Presented) The unloading auger according to Claim 1, wherein said
2 second segment defines an auger exit opening for delivering said crop material to said
3 ambient environment.

1 16. (Previously Presented) The agricultural combine as recited in claim 6, wherein
2 said storage bin defines an upper surface, and wherein said horizontal section is in
3 communication with said upper surface.

1 17. (Previously Presented) In an agricultural combine disposed in an ambient
2 environment, an unloading auger for removing a crop material from a storage bin, said
3 unloading auger comprising:

4 an infeed section coupled to an outlet of said storage bin for receiving said crop
5 material from said storage bin;

6 a two-segmented, foldable outfeed section including a first segment and a second
7 segment, said first segment including a first end and a second end, said first end coupled to
8 said infeed section and said second end pivotally coupled to said second segment, said pivotal
9 coupling defining a single axis of pivotal movement, said second segment being pivotally
10 foldable relative to said first segment, said pivotal fold allowing transition of said outfeed
11 section between a storage position and a coaxially connected unloading position, said
12 transition occurring about only one axis of pivot; and

13 a safety mechanism for preventing said crop material from spilling out when said
14 auger is in said storage position.

1 18. (Previously Presented) The unloading auger according to Claim 17, wherein
2 said safety mechanism prevents said auger from operating in said storage position.

1 19-21 (Cancelled)

1 22. (Previously Presented) The unloading auger according to Claim 1, wherein said
2 actuator is a hydraulic cylinder.

1 23. (Previously Presented) The agricultural combine according to Claim 1,
2 wherein, when in said storage position, said first segment and said second segment are
3 positioned generally parallel to a longitudinal axis of said combine with said second segment
4 positioned generally adjacent to an inside edge of said first segment.

1 24. (Previously Presented) The agricultural combine according to Claim 6, wherein
2 , when in said storage position, said first segment is positioned generally parallel to a
3 longitudinal axis of said combine and said second segment is positioned generally transverse
4 to said longitudinal axis of said combine, said second segment being positioned generally
5 along the rear end of said combine.

1 25. (Previously Presented) The agricultural combine according to Claim 6, wherein
2 said actuator is a hydraulic cylinder.

1 26. (Previously Presented) The unloading auger according to Claim 6, wherein,
2 when in said storage position, said first segment and said second segment are positioned
3 generally parallel to a longitudinal axis of said combine with said second segment being
4 positioned generally adjacent to an outside edge of said first segment.

1 27. (Previously Presented) The agricultural combine according to Claim 6,
2 wherein, when in said storage position, said first segment is positioned generally parallel to a
3 longitudinal axis of said combine and said second segment is positioned generally transverse
4 to said longitudinal axis of said combine, said second segment being positioned generally
5 along the rear end of said combine.

1 28. (Previously Presented) The unloading auger according to Claim 17, wherein
2 said actuator is a hydraulic cylinder.

1 29. (Previously Presented) The unloading auger according to Claim 17, wherein
2 said first segment and said second segment pivotally fold relative to one another in a
3 substantially horizontal plane between said storage position and said unloading position.

1 30. (Previously Presented) The unloading auger according to Claim 17, wherein
2 said first segment and said second segment pivotally fold relative to one another in a
3 substantially vertical plane between said storage position and said unloading position.

1 31. (Previously Presented) The unloading auger according to Claim 17, wherein,
2 when in said storage position, said first segment and said second segment are positioned
3 generally parallel to a longitudinal axis of said combine with said second segment being
4 positioned generally adjacent to an outside edge of said first segment.

1 32. (Previously Presented) The agricultural combine according to Claim 17,
2 wherein, when in said storage position, said first segment is positioned generally parallel to a
3 longitudinal axis of said combine and said second segment is positioned generally transverse
4 to said longitudinal axis of said combine with said second segment positioned generally along
5 the rear end of said combine.

1 33. (Previously Presented) The agricultural combine according to Claim 17,
2 wherein, when in said storage position, said first segment and said second segment are
3 positioned generally parallel to a longitudinal axis of said combine with said second segment
4 positioned generally adjacent to an inside edge of said first segment.

1 34. (Previously Presented) The agricultural combine according to Claim 17,
2 wherein, when in said storage position, said first segment is generally parallel to a
3 longitudinal axis of said combine and said second segment is positioned generally vertically
4 to the ground.

1 35. (Currently Amended) A method of moving an auger of an agricultural
2 combine between an unloading position and a storage position, the method comprising the
3 steps of:
4 pivoting a substantially horizontally disposed outfeed auger in a substantially
5 horizontal plane relative to a grain storage bin of said combine, said outfeed auger including

6 at least a first segment and a second segment, said first segment being pivotally connected to
7 said second segment; and

8 pivotally folding at least one of said first segment and said second segment in a
9 substantially horizontal plane relative to said other such that said first and second segments
10 are in a side-by-side relationship when said auger is in said storage position.

1 36. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 35, wherein the step of pivotally
2 folding includes positioning said first segment and said second segment into substantially
3 horizontally planar coaxial alignment when in said unloading position and positioning said
4 first segment and said second segment parallel to a longitudinal axis of said combine, said
5 second segment being positioned generally adjacent to an outside edge of said first segment,
6 when in said storage position.

1 37. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 35, wherein the step of pivotally
2 folding includes positioning said first segment and said second segment into substantially
3 horizontally planar coaxial alignment when in said unloading position and positioning said
4 first segment and said second segment parallel to a longitudinal axis of the combine, said
5 second segment being positioned generally adjacent to an inside edge of said first segment,
6 when in said storage position.

1 38. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 35, wherein the step of pivotally
2 folding includes positioning said first segment and said second segment into substantially
3 horizontally planar coaxial alignment when in said unloading position and positioning said
4 first segment parallel to a longitudinal axis of said combine and said second segment
5 generally transverse to said longitudinal axis of said combine, said second segment being
6 positioned generally along the rear end of the combine, when in said storage position.

1 39. (Currently Amended) A method of moving an auger of an agricultural
2 combine between an unloading position and a storage position, wherein the combine includes
3 a storage bin housing crop material, the method comprising the steps of:
4 pivoting a substantially horizontally disposed outfeed auger in a substantially
5 horizontal plane relative to a grain storage bin of said combine, said outfeed auger including

6 at least a first segment and a second segment, said first segment being pivotally connected to
7 said second segment; ~~and~~
8 coupling an infeed segment to the first segment and to an outlet of the storage bin for
9 receiving said crop material from said storage bin; and
10 pivotally folding said second segment in a substantially vertical plane relative to ~~the~~
11 said first segment while maintaining the infeed segment in a substantially vertical orientation.

1 40. (Previously Presented) The agricultural combine according to Claim 39,
2 wherein the step of pivotally folding includes positioning said first segment and said second
3 segment into substantially horizontal planar coaxial alignment when in said unloading
4 position and positioning said first segment parallel to a longitudinal axis of said combine and
5 said second segment generally vertical to the ground, when in said storage position.